FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION OF THE UNITED STATES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20579

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

Claim No.CU - 2892

ROBERT C. JOHNSON

Decision No.CU 4385

Under the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949. as amended

Counsel for Claimant:

J, Arthur Bowen, Esq.

PROPOSED DECISION

Claimant, ROBERT C. JOHNSON, asserts a claim under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, against the Government of Cuba because of its nationalization of the Cia. Antillana de Acero, S. A. (Antillian Steel Corporation) and the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust, in which he asserts an ownership interest.

In our decision, entitled the <u>Claim of Independence Foundation</u>
(Claim No. CU-2152), which we incorporate herein by reference, we held
that the Cia. Antillana de Acero, S. A. was intervened by the Government
of Cuba on March 25, 1960 under Resolution No. 1 of the Cuban Ministry of
Finance; and that this type of claim is within the purview of Section
503(a) of the Act under the facts and conditions set forth therein.
We need not again detail here the reasons or the method used in determining
the value of \$100.00 per share of stock.

On the basis of evidence of record in the instant case, the Commission finds that the claimant, ROBERT C. JOHNSON, comes within the terms of the Independence Foundation decision; that he was a national of the United States at all times relevant to this claim; that he has been the owner of 38 (Thirty-eight) shares of stock in the Cia. Antillana de Acero, S. A. since prior to March 25, 1960; and that he suffered a loss in the total amount of \$3,800.00 within the meaning of Title V of the Act. Further, the Commission finds that the amount of loss sustained shall be increased.

by interest thereon at the rate of 6% per annum from March 25, 1960, the date when the claim arose, to the date on which provisions are made for the settlement thereof. (See Independence Foundation, supra.)

By Commission letter of September 5, 1969, claimant was advised, through counsel, to submit the original participation certificates of the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust, as evidence of his ownership interest in such Trust. In this letter claimant was also informed that the claim has been reached for determination and if the suggested evidence is not submitted on or before October 6, 1969, it may become necessary for the Commission to make a determination on the basis of the record then available. In reply, the Commission was advised by letter of September 22, 1969, that the claimant is unable to locate the participation certificates, but will submit the same as soon as possible. However, no participation certificates of the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust have been submitted to date.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission finds that claimant has failed to establish his ownership of the 2,718 participation certificates of the Cuban Venezuelan Oil Voting Trust upon which a portion of his claim is based and for that reason that portion of the claim must be and it is hereby denied.

CERTIFICATION OF LOSS

The Commission certifies that ROBERT C. JOHNSON suffered a loss, as a result of actions of the Government of Cuba, within the scope of Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, in the amount of Three Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars

(\$3,800.00) with interest at 6% per annum from March 25, 1960, to the date of settlement.

Dated at Washington, D. C., and entered as the Proposed Decision of the Commission

7 JAN 1970

Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

Sidney Freidberg, Commissioner

NOTICE TO TREASURY: The above-referenced securities may not have been submitted to the Commission or if submitted, may have been returned; accordingly, no payment should be made until claimant establishes retention of the securities for the loss here certified.

The statute <u>does not provide for the payment of claims</u> against the Government of Cuba. Provision is only made for the determination by the Commission of the validity and amounts of such claims. Section 501 of the statute specifically precludes any authorization for appropriations for payment of these claims. The Commission is required to certify its findings to the Secretary of State for possible use in future negotiations with the Government of Cuba.

NOTICE: Pursuant to the Regulations of the Commission, if no objections are filed within 15 days after service or receipt of notice of this Proposed Decision, the decision will be entered as the Final Decision of the Commission upon the expiration of 30 days after such service or receipt of notice, unless the Commission otherwise orders. (FCSC Reg., 45 C.F.R. §531.5(e) and (g), as amended, 32 Fed. Reg. 412-13 [1967].)